GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1761
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Impact of Infrastructure Projects
Ranjan (Pappu Yadav) Shri Rajesh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has considered the feasibility and environmental impact of increasing the area of forest granted "general approval" in 117 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts for public infrastructure projects by eight times; and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has finalised the public infrastructure projects to be constructed in this exempted area;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has completed construction of public infrastructure projects in the originally allotted 5 hectares in these districts;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the Government has any data to show that the establishment of these public infrastructure projects has led to the decline of LWE, and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a): No, Madam, the present general approval is not more than 5 hectare of forest land valid upto December 31, 2018.
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(b) & (c): The Government has approved 14 categories of works to be undertaken in the not more than 5 hectare exempted areas, namely: (i) Schools (ii) Dispensaries/ Hospitals (iii) Electric and telecommunication lines (iv) Drinking water projects (v) Water/rainwater harvesting structures (vi) Minor irrigation canals (vii) Non-conventional sources of energy (viii) Skill up-gradation/vocational training centers (ix) Power sub-stations (x) Rural roads (xi) Communication posts (xii) Police establishments like police stations/outposts/border outposts/ watch towers, in sensitive areas identified by MHA (xiii) Underground laying of optical fibre cable, telephone lines & drinking water supply lines (xiv) Setting up of Medical Colleges by Government department.

(d) & (e): The public infrastructure projects are prepared and executed by the State Governments concerned through their agencies. Completion of works under the projects is an ongoing process.

(f): Government have a four pronged strategy of security, development, ensuring rights and entitlements of forest dwellers and perception management which has resulted in considerable decline in LWE related violence.
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